MARVEL COMICS
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MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
SHADOW BIRTH!
WONDER MAN
BECOMES A MAD GOD AND THE AVENGERS MUST STOP HIM!

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

Cover by KEVIN O'NEILL
TERRY KAVANAGH editor
KELLY CORVESE assistant editor
TOM DeFALCO editor in chief

Stan Lee Presents:

WOLVERINE "BLACK SHADOW, WHITE SHADOW" 1

WRITER — Marv Wolfman
ART — John Buscema
LETTERER — Phil Felix
COLORIST — Nel Yomtov

"ORIGINS" — PART 7 OF 10

Wolverine enters a destroyed building that had served as the spawning ground for both Black Shadow and White Shadow. A battle with the dark menace nearly destroys Logan before the mutant eludes its grasp only to find himself facing someone or some thing!

WONDER MAN "STARDUST MISERIES" 9

WRITER — Michael Higgins
PENCILER — Javier Saltares
INKER — José Marzan
LETTERER — Ken Lopez
COLORIST — Tom Vincent

"REACH FOR THE STARS" — PART 8 OF 8

At last! The conclusion of the WONDER MAN saga!

Will Wonder Man truly become a GOD? And, will it signal the END of the Mighty Avengers?

HULK 17

WRITER — Peter David
ART — Herb Trimpe
LETTERER — Diana Albers
COLORIST — Mike Rockwitz

"THE MAIN EVENT"

By day Dr. Robert Bruce Banner is the classic ninety pound weakling. But at night, through an over-dose of gamma radiation, he is transformed into the mysterious powerhouse known to the denizens of Las Vegas as Mr. Fixit, and to the rest of the world as the Incredible Hulk.

SHOOTING STAR 25

WRITER — Robert Campanella
PENCILER — José Delbo
INKER — Mike DeCarlo
LETTERER — Janice Chiang
COLORIST — Kelly P. Corvese

"BANG BANG, SHOOT SHOOT"

Ever since she was a little girl, she could hit anything she aimed at — anything! This incredible marksman ability is, as of yet, largely unexplained but Victoria Star has put it to good use.

First as a rodeo performer and then as a member of the Texas based group of heroes "The Rangers"! These days with her specially designed paralysis-pellet shooting six-shooters on her hip she roams her home state of Texas alone lending a hand to those in need.

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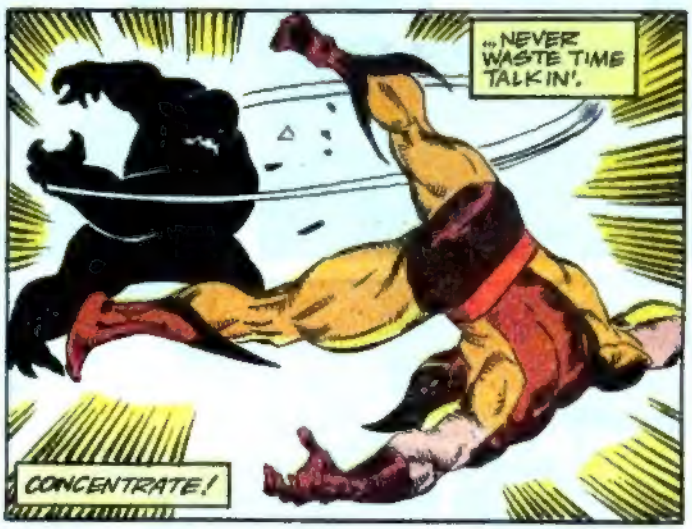
WHITE SHADOW!
BLACK SHADOW!
CHAPTER VIII:
ORIGINS!
FEATURING:
WOLVERINE
HE SAT THERE LIKE AN UNMOVIN' MOUNTAIN OF ROLLING FLESH WITH SNAKE-SLIT EYES AND A STINK THAT SCREAMED HE HADN'T BEEN NEAR WATER SINCE BEFORE NOAH HAMMERED HIS FIRST NAIL.
DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS, AND DIDN'T MUCH CARE.
BECAUSE SHOOTING OUT OF HIS BODY LIKE SOME MOVIE SPECIAL EFFECT WAS THE BLACK SHADOW THAT HAD KILLED TWO OF MY FRIENDS AND AT LEAST SEVERAL THOUSAND MORE.
NOW HE WAS COMING FOR ME.

LEAVE HERE--
--GET OUT BEFORE HE / I / WE DESTROY YOU.
THERE CAN BE NO SAFETY! GET OUT! GET OUT!
DON'T TAKE WELL TO WARNINGS. I MOVED IN...
MISTAKE.
MY ARM FROZE AT HIS TOUCH. ONLY MY ADAMANTIUM-LACED SKELETON PREVENTED ME FROM BECOMING AN INSTANT POPSICLE.
MATTER OF STAYING ALIVE NOW.
THEN TO PLAN MY NEXT MOVE...
K-RASH
...WASN'T GOING TO BE EASY.
STILL, I NEVER GIVE UP.
NO PERCENTAGE IN THAT.
RUN AND SOMEHOW THEY WILL ALWAYS CATCH UP TO YOU.
KRUNCH
MAY AS WELL BE ON THE ATTACK.

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.
DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO ANSWER...
...BUT THEN THE WORLD'S ALWAYS FULL OF SURPRISES.

I WARNED YOU TO LEAVE.
THERE CAN BE NO SURVIVAL HERE.
NOT FOR ANY-THING HUMAN!

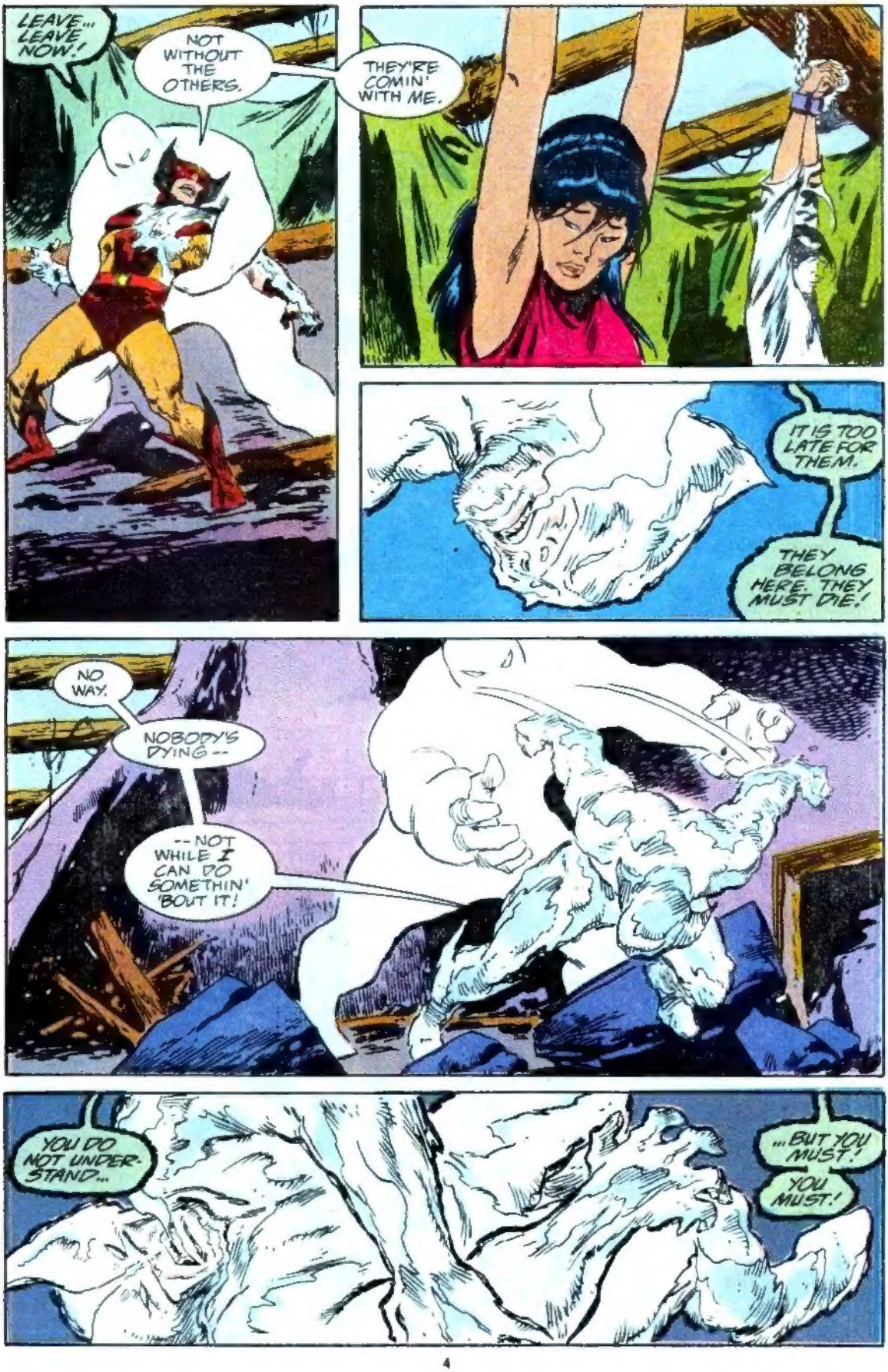
NO WAY, BUB-- NOT TILL I GET SOME ANSWERS!
I WAS STUPID...

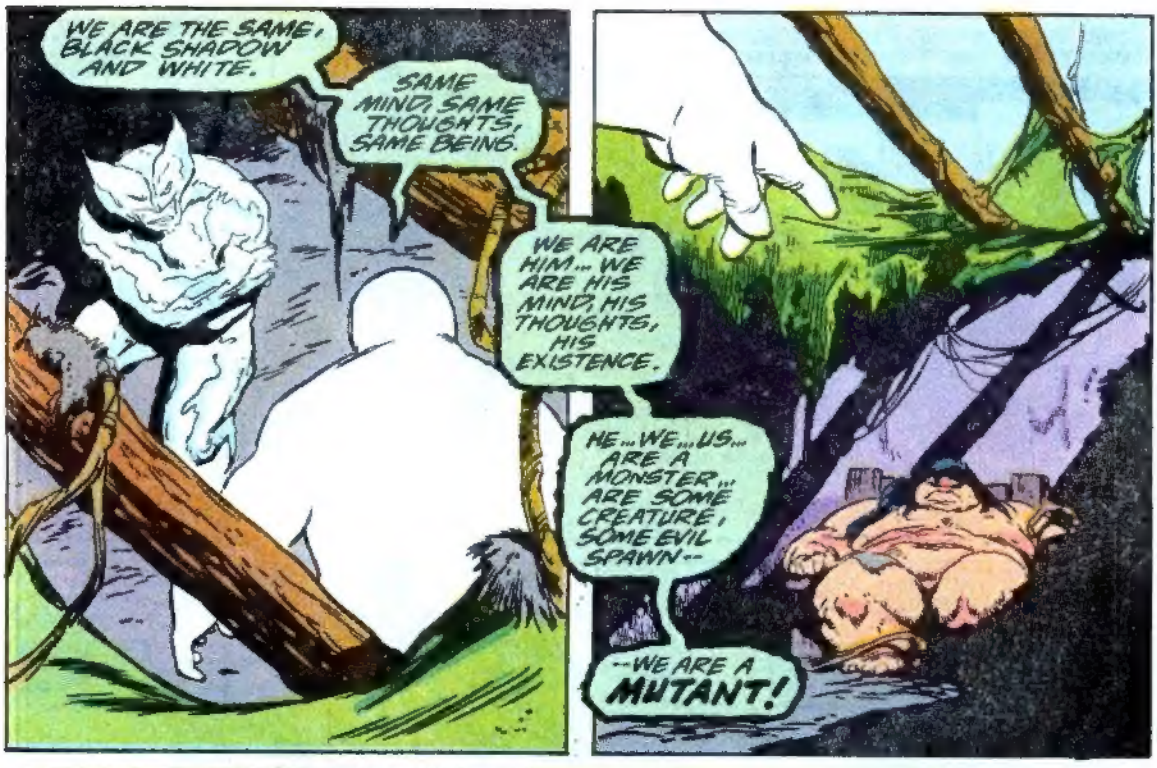

...NEVER WASTE TIME TALKIN'.
CONCENTRATE!

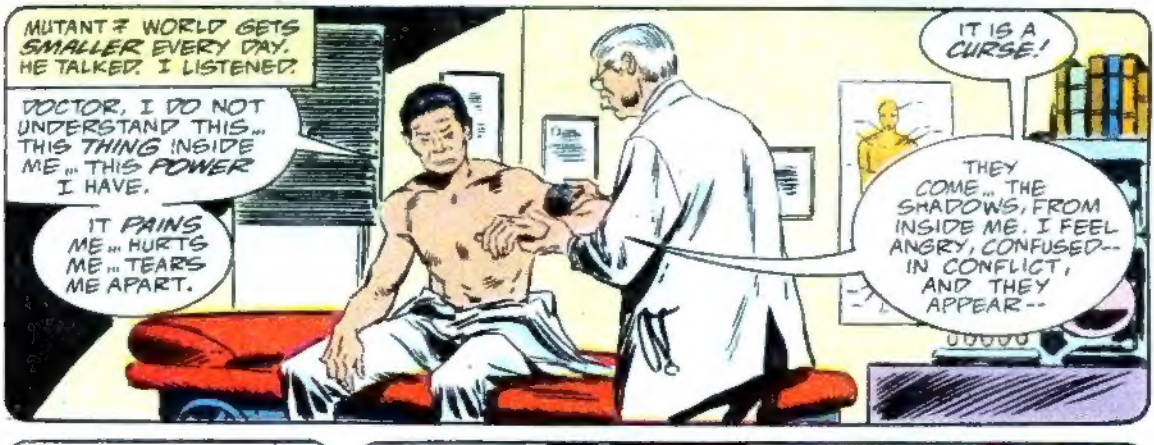
WHEN YOU DIVIDE YOUR ATTENTION YOU GET SUCKER PUNCHED.
WHUD
WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE A SECOND TIME.

SAW HIM COMING AND I WAITED...

...WAITED...
...WAITED...
...THEN ACTED.
BOOM!


LEAVE... LEAVE NOW!
NOT WITHOUT THE OTHERS.
THEY'RE COMIN' WITH ME.
IT IS TOO LATE FOR THEM.
THEY BELONG HERE. THEY MUST DIE!
NO WAY.
NOBODY'S DYING --
-- NOT WHILE I CAN DO SOMETHIN' 'BOUT IT!
YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND...
...BUT YOU MUST!
YOU MUST!


WE ARE THE SAME, BLACK SHADOW AND WHITE.
SAME MIND, SAME THOUGHTS, SAME BEING.
WE ARE HIM... WE ARE HIS MIND, HIS THOUGHTS, HIS EXISTENCE.
HE... WE... US... ARE A MONSTER... ARE SOME CREATURE, SOME EVIL SPAWN--
--WE ARE A MUTANT!


MUTANT? WORLD GETS SMALLER EVERY DAY. HE TALKED. I LISTENED.
DOCTOR, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS... THIS THING INSIDE ME... THIS POWER I HAVE.
IT PAINS ME... HURTS ME... TEARS ME APART.
IT IS A CURSE!
THEY COME... THE SHADOWS, FROM INSIDE ME. I FEEL ANGRY, CONFUSED-- IN CONFLICT, AND THEY APPEAR--

MY GOD... MY GOD--LOOK!
IT BEGINS AGAIN!

NOOOOOO
"AND THE CONFUSION INSIDE ME/ ALL THREE OF US--- KILLED.

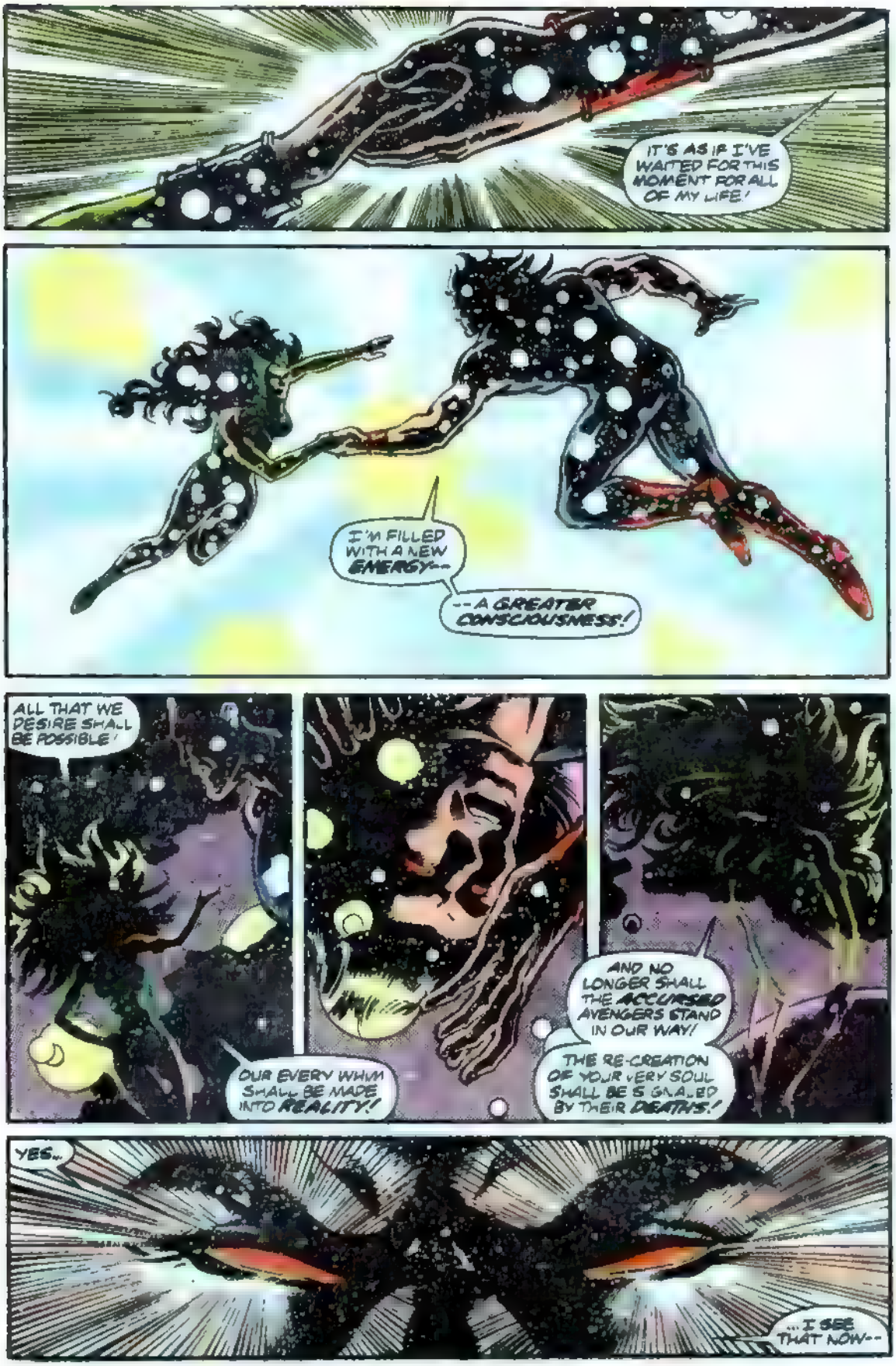
"THEY FEARED ME, KNOWING WE BLED THEIR CATTLE, DESTROYED THEIR SHEEP, KILLED THEIR FAMILIES.
"THEY FEARED ME AND WHAT THEY FEARED THEY WANTED TO DESTROY.
"I CRIED OUT, HOLDING BACK WHAT WAS WITHIN ME. I--I COULD NOT KILL AGAIN.
"I WAS UNCONSCIOUS, AND MY DARKENED MIND WAS AT PEACE. I WAITED FOR DEATH...
"WE/I PRAYED TO DIE BECAUSE OF THE CURSE I HAD BEEN BORN WITH, THE CURSE THAT HAD MURDERED MY OWN FAMILY TWENTY YEARS BEFORE.
"...BUT INSTEAD I WAS TAKEN AWAY, BROUGHT TO THIS ASYLUM.
WE ARE OF TWO MINDS... BOTH IN CONFLICT, BOTH FIGHTING EACH OTHER.
SCHIZOPHRENIA.
TWO PERSONALITIES WHICH MY MUTANT POWERS MANIFESTED INTO A PHYSICAL FORM.
WHITE SHADOW AND BLACK SHADOW. BOTH IN A CONFLICT THAT MUST END WITH EACH OTHER'S DEATH.
WHICH IS ALSO DESTROYIN' EVERYTHIN' ELSE AROUND YOU.
EH?

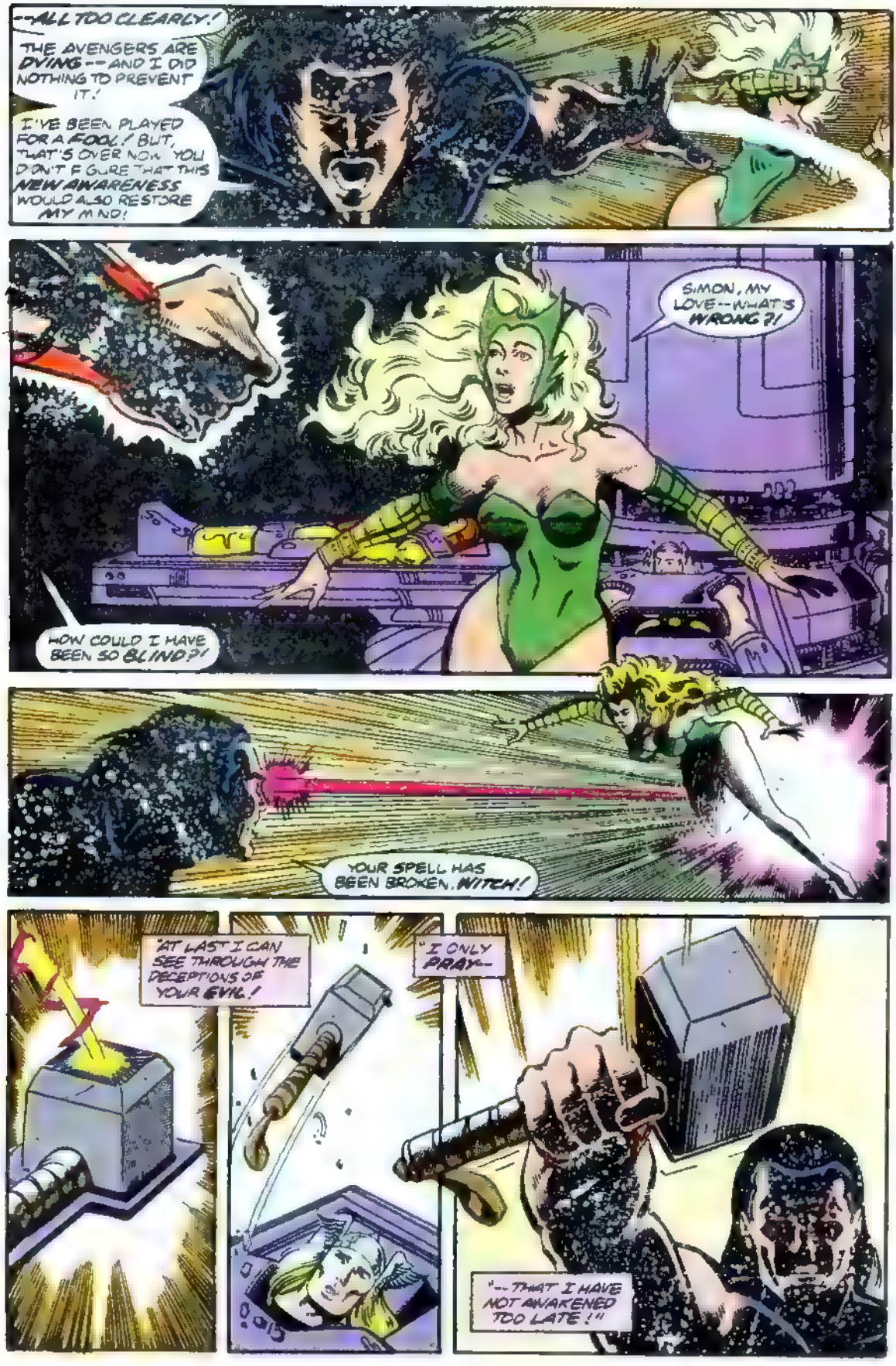
WHICH WILL DESTROY YOU FIRST!
SHAK!
DESTROY YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL!
THEN DESTROY ALL THAT STANDS IN MY WAY!
BLACK SHADOW WAS BACK, AND THIS TIME HE WASN'T GOING TO JUST FADE AWAY.
HE WANTED ME...
...WOULD DO ANYTHIN' TO GET ME.
TRICK WAS STAYING ALIVE.
WHERE THE BLAZES WAS HARRY HOUDINI WHEN YOU NEEDED HIM?!

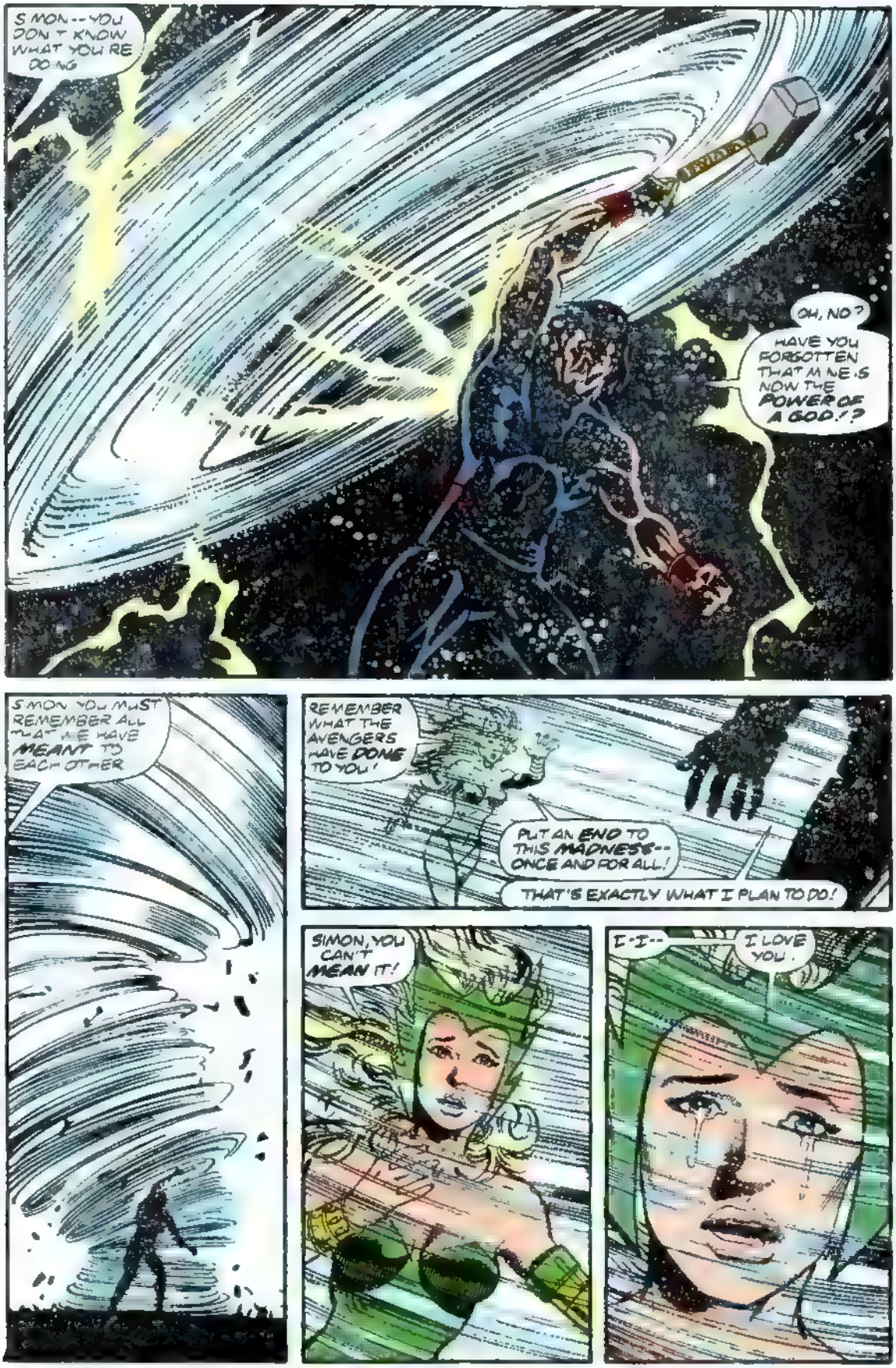
FORGET ABOUT US, "PATCH." RUN FROM HERE.
SAVE YOURSELF.
KEEP OUT OF THIS, MAI--
--THIS IS MY FIGHT NOW!
AAGHHHH
SKRAKKK
MEAT CAN BE RENDERED.
THEN SWEETENED TO THE TASTE.
THE WOMAN IS NEXT.
THEN, AT LAST, YOU WILL FOLLOW AS A FEAST WELL DESERVED.
BUB, DON'T BELIEVE IT.
YOU STILL GOT TO GET PAST ME FIRST.
BRAVE WORDS.
NOW, HOW IN BLAZES COULD I BACK 'EM UP?!
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE:
ASSAULT!

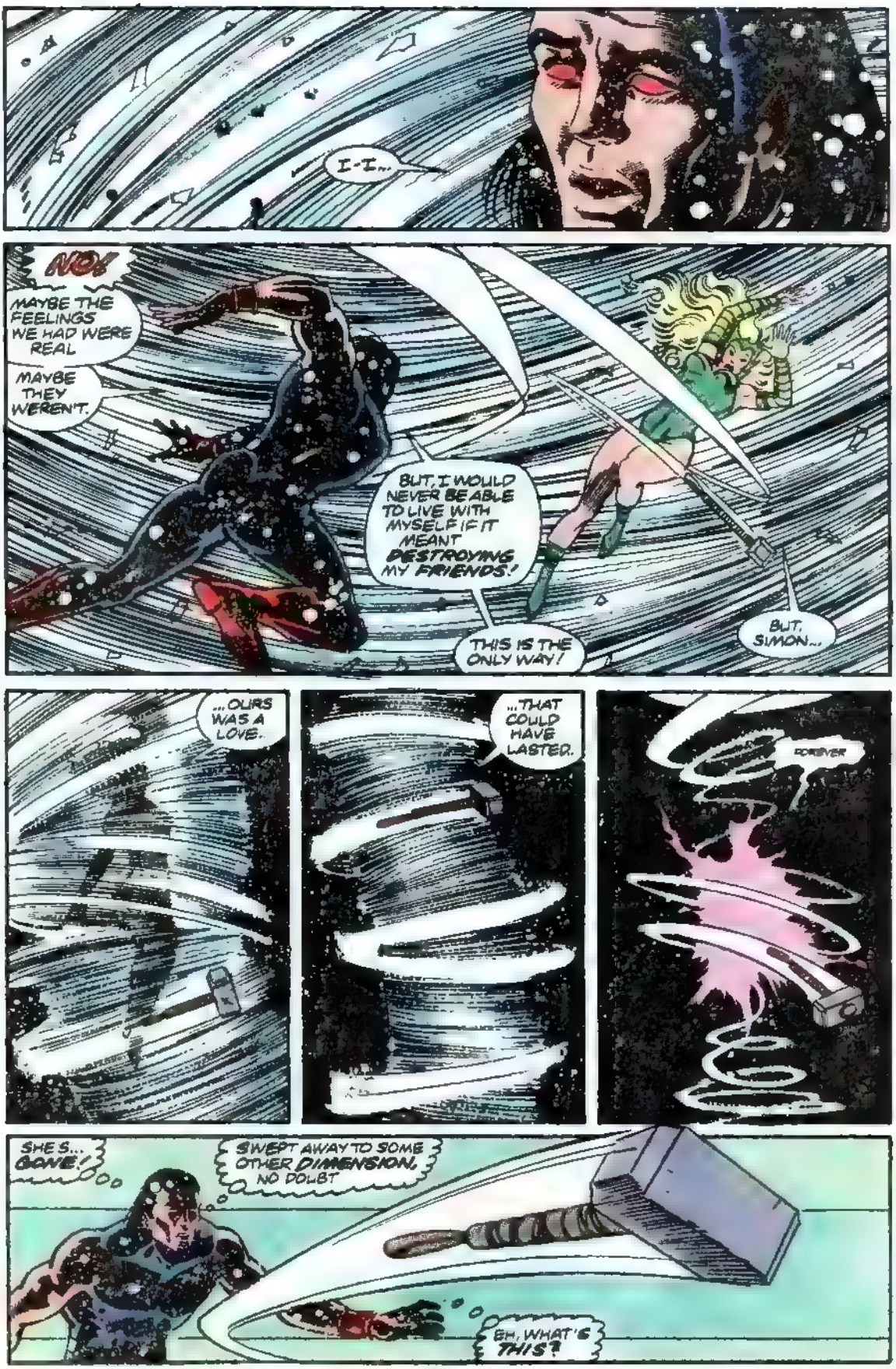
Stardust Miseries
PART 8
FEATURING:
WONDER MAN
in
REACH FOR THE STARS

BEHOLD THE MAN!
BUT NOT FOR LONG, EH, ENCHANTRESS!
ONCE I HAVE BESTOWED THE POWER OF A GOD UNTO YOU, YOU SHALL NEVER BE CALLED WONDER MAN AGAIN!
ALREADY I CAN FEEL THEIR POWER COURSING THROUGH ME!
INDEED THERE IS GREAT BEAUTY, A GREAT IRONY-- JUSTICE-- TO MY PLAN!
"THE SAME PROCEDURE THAT ELEVATES YOU TO GODHOOD WILL ALSO DRAIN THE AVENGERS OF THEIR LIVES!"
THEY SHALL HAUNT US NO LONGER
...AND WE WILL BE TOGETHER.. FOREVER!
SIMON-- THINK, MAN!
IS THIS TRULY WHAT YOU DESIRE?
YOU BET IT IS, THOR!


IT'S AS IF I'VE WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT FOR ALL OF MY LIFE!
I'M FILLED WITH A NEW ENERGY--
--A GREATER CONSCIOUSNESS!
ALL THAT WE DESIRE SHALL BE POSSIBLE!
OUR EVERY WHIM SHALL BE MADE INTO REALITY!
AND NO LONGER SHALL THE ACCURSED AVENGERS STAND IN OUR WAY!
THE RE-CREATION OF YOUR VERY SOUL SHALL BE SEALED BY THEIR DEATHS!
YES..
...I SEE THAT NOW--


--ALL TOO CLEARLY.!
THE AVENGERS ARE DYING--AND I DID NOTHING TO PREVENT IT.!
I'VE BEEN PLAYED FOR A FOOL.! BUT, THAT'S OVER NOW. YOU DON'T FIGURE THAT THIS NEW AWARENESS WOULD ALSO RESTORE MY MIND!
SIMON, MY LOVE--WHAT'S WRONG?!
HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?!
YOUR SPELL HAS BEEN BROKEN, WITCH!
"AT LAST I CAN SEE THROUGH THE DECEPTIONS OF YOUR EVIL.!
"I ONLY PRAY--
"--THAT I HAVE NOT AWAKENED TOO LATE.!"


SIMON--YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING
OH, NO?
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT MINE IS NOW THE POWER OF A GOD!?
SIMON, YOU MUST REMEMBER ALL THAT WE HAVE MEANT TO EACH OTHER
REMEMBER WHAT THE AVENGERS HAVE DONE TO YOU!
PUT AN END TO THIS MADNESS--ONCE AND FOR ALL!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I PLAN TO DO!
SIMON, YOU CAN'T MEAN IT!
I-I--
I LOVE YOU.


I-I...
NO!
MAYBE THE FEELINGS WE HAD WERE REAL
MAYBE THEY WEREN'T.
BUT, I WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH MYSELF IF IT MEANT DESTROYING MY FRIENDS!
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY!
BUT, SIMON...
...OURS WAS A LOVE.
...THAT COULD HAVE LASTED.
FOREVER
SHE'S... GONE!
SWEPT AWAY TO SOME OTHER DIMENSION, NO DOUBT
EH, WHAT'S THIS?

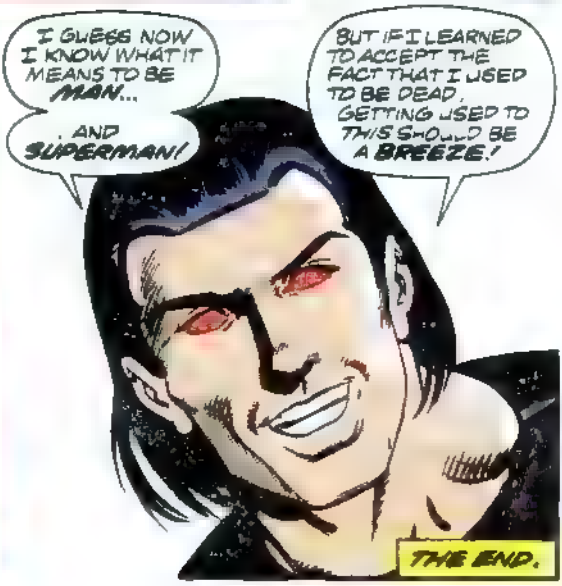
THOR'S HAMMER ACTS AS IF IT HAS A WILL OF ITS OWN!
KRAKA
BAM
NO, MJOLNIR HAS JUST RETURNED TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER...
...THE AVENGERS HAVE BEEN RESTORED.
AND I'M MYSELF-- WONDER MAN-- ONCE MORE!
SIMON FRIEND, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
UH, YEAH I THINK SO!
JUST A LITTLE CONFUSED BY EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED
RELAX, AVENGER. IT'S ALL OVER!

A SHORT TIME LATER, AT AVENGERS COMPOUND..
WELL, THE RESULTS ARE IN, WONDER MAN

WHAT DID YOU FIND, DR PYM?
YOU'RE AS GOOD AS NEW!
AND, THAT'S ALL!
THE ENCHANTRESS'S EXPERIMENT SEEMS TO HAVE LEFT NO PERMANENT EFFECTS
GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK BUDDY!
IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK, HAWKEYE!

OF COURSE, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT EFFECT ALL THIS WILL HAVE ON YOUR MUTATED LIFE ENERGY IN THE FUTURE!
YOU MEAN THERE COULD BE AFTER-EFFECTS?
LET'S JUST SAY WE'LL KEEP AN EYE ON YOU-- FOR A WHILE AT LEAST!

AS LONG AS YOU ARE FEELING WELL, SIMON, THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY!
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, WANDA...
...IT'S JUST THAT IT'S SO HARD TO BE GIVEN A FLEETING GLIMPSE OF GODHOOD...
...AND THEN BE FORCED TO GIVE IT UP!

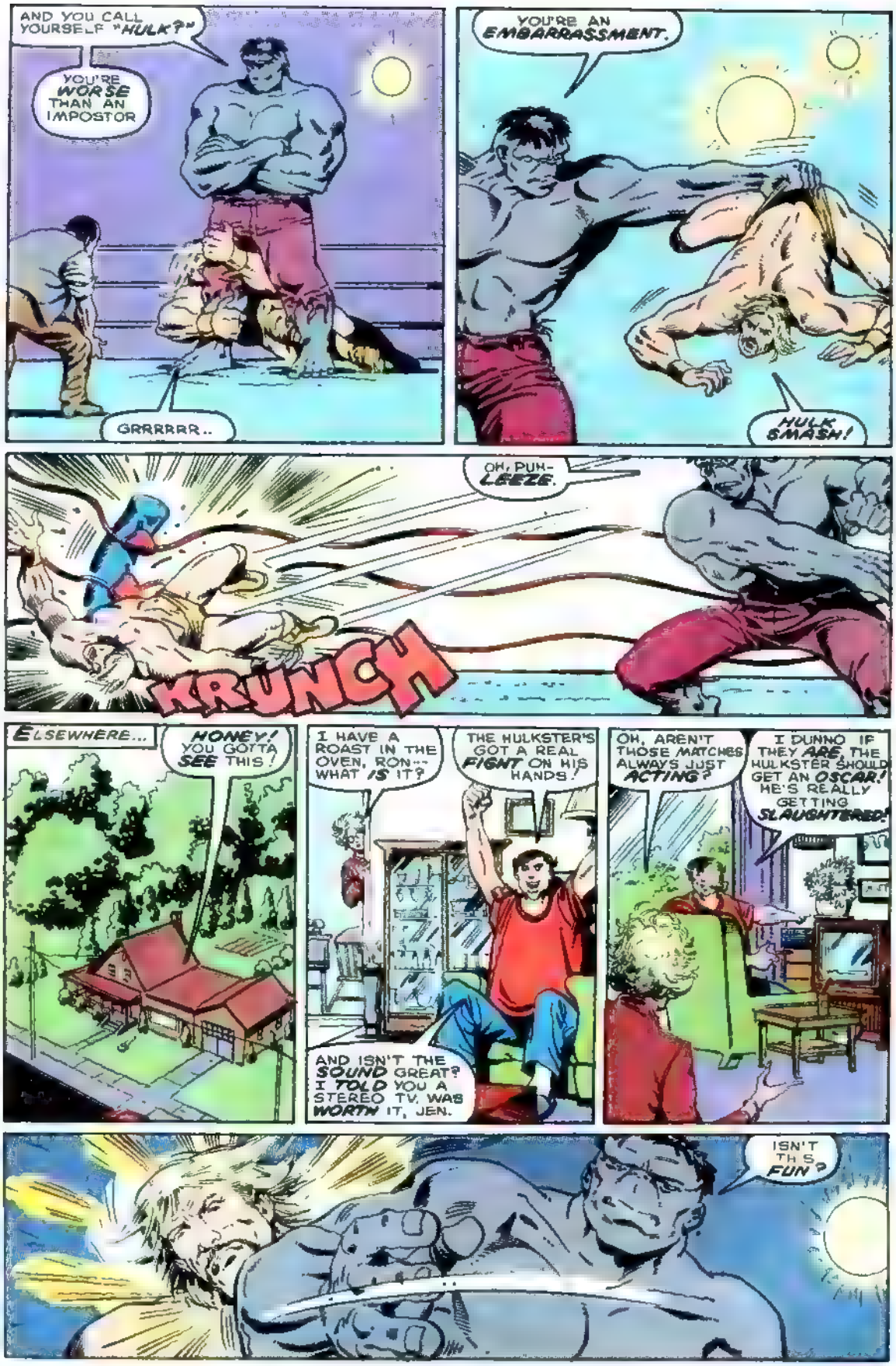

I GUESS NOW I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE MAN...
...AND SUPERMAN!
BUT IF I LEARNED TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT I USED TO BE DEAD, GETTING USED TO THIS SHOULD BE A BREEZE!
THE END.

IN THIS CORNER--
THE INCREDIBLE HULK in THE MAIN EVENT
FRONTIER
HONK
BEEP BEEP
WITH ME! THE INCREDIBLE HULK!
YOU HEARD RIGHT! I'M INCREDIBLE! AND NOT JUST THAT--

--I'M POWDIER THAN RODDY! MORE MACHO THAN THE MAN!
OOOOHHH, I HATE THIS JOB.
I'M THE INCREDIBLE HULK!
OOMPH
YEAH
HULK
THE WINNAH, AND STILL CHAMPEEN-- THE BLOND BARNSTORMER HIMSELF--
HULK
HULK
HULK
THAT DOES IT!
GULP!
--THE ONE...
THE ONLY...
...HULK!

I'M CALLING YOU OUT, "HULK!"
PHWOOM
HOLD IT! WHO THE BLAZES DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
YOU CAN CALL ME "SIR."
YOU CAN'T JUST COME LEAPING IN HERE.
--SIR
YOU DON'T HAVETA THREATEN THE REF! YOU WANT A FIGHT? YOU CAME TO TH' RIGHT PLACE!
LET'S MIX-IT-UP, HOTSHOT!
RING THE BELL! I SMELL BLOOD!

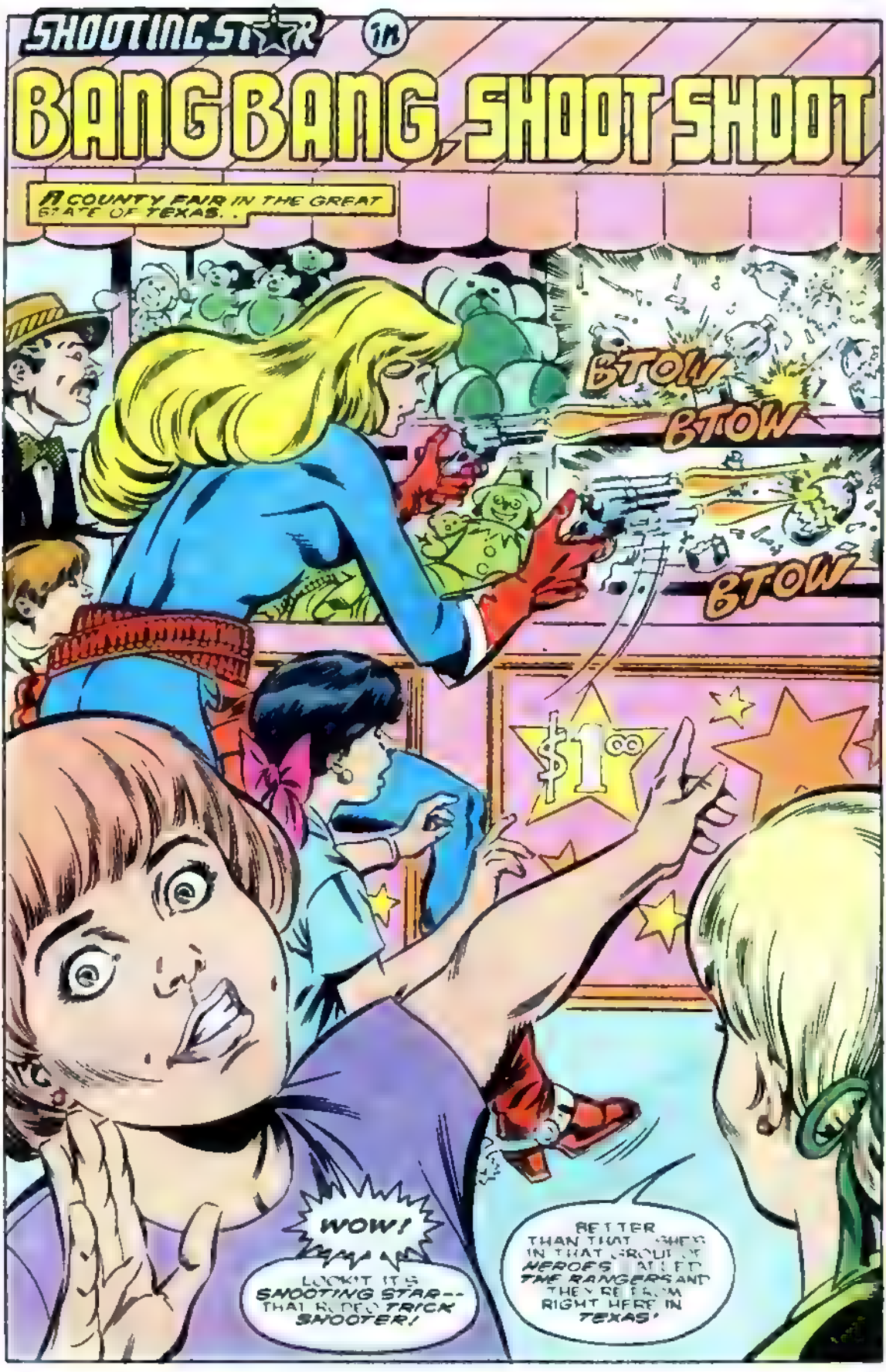
CLANG
NAH! HE'S SCARED STIFF!
THIS ISN'T EVEN GONNA BE A CHALLENGE FOR THE HULK!
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT
WUNK
ARRAAAWRRRRRR...
GRRRRRRRRR...
GRUUUNNNK...
HURNK... HURNK... HURNK...


AND YOU CALL YOURSELF "HULK?"
YOU'RE WORSE THAN AN IMPOSTOR
GRRRRRR..
YOU'RE AN EMBARRASSMENT.
HULK SMASH!
OH, PUH-LEEZE.
KRUNCH
ELSEWHERE...
HONEY! YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!
I HAVE A ROAST IN THE OVEN, RON... WHAT IS IT?
THE HULKSTER'S GOT A REAL FIGHT ON HIS HANDS!
AND ISN'T THE SOUND GREAT? I TOLD YOU A STEREO TV. WAS WORTH IT, JEN.
OH, AREN'T THOSE MATCHES ALWAYS JUST ACTING?
I DUNNO IF THEY ARE, THE HULKSTER SHOULD GET AN OSCAR! HE'S REALLY GETTING SLAUGHTERED!
ISN'T THIS FUN?

I'VE SEEN YOUR POSTERS
I'VE SEEN YOUR VIDEOS
KLONK
I'VE SEEN YOUR STUPID CARTOON SHOW.
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH!
BOOMPH
EVERY TIME I READ "HULK" NEXT TO YOUR UGLY MUG, IT MAKES ME ANGRIER! AND THE ANGRIER I GET...
WELL, YOU GET THE IDEA
KLUD
YOU'VE MADE QUITE A NAME FOR YOURSELF. TOO BAD FOR YOU--
WHIIISSH
--YOU PICKED THE WRONG NAME
WOOOOSH
RRIIIPP
HEH HEH HEH...

MEANWHILE...
OH, MAN! I WONDER WHERE HE'S GONNA COME DOWN?
KRASH
THUD
MY, THAT STEREO T.V. IS AN IM-PROVEMENT, RON. THAT REALLY RATTLED MY MOLARS!
THE...THE HULKSTER'S ON THE TV SET.
WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FIGHT?
YES, DEAR, I KNOW. NOW WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FIGHT?

SO!
ANY OTHER OF YOU CLOWNS WANT TO SWIPE A NAME YOU DON'T DESERVE, JUST TO GET AHEAD?
NO, SIR.
NOT ME.
NEVER CROSSED MY MIND
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE WINNAH AND NEW CHAMPEEN
WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?
YOU CAN CALL ME MR. FIXIT.
YAY
YAY
AWRIGHT
YEAH
AND THEY CAN CALL ME THE INCREDIBLE
YOU-KNOW-WHAT
THE END.


SHOOTING STAR
1M
BANG BANG, SHOOT SHOOT
A COUNTY FAIR IN THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS...
BTOW
BTOW
BTOW
$1
WOW!
LOOKIT IT'S SHOOTING STAR-- THAT KID'S TRICK SHOOTER!
BETTER THAN THAT... SHE'S IN THAT GROUP OF HEROES CALLED THE RANGERS AND THEY'RE FROM RIGHT HERE IN TEXAS!

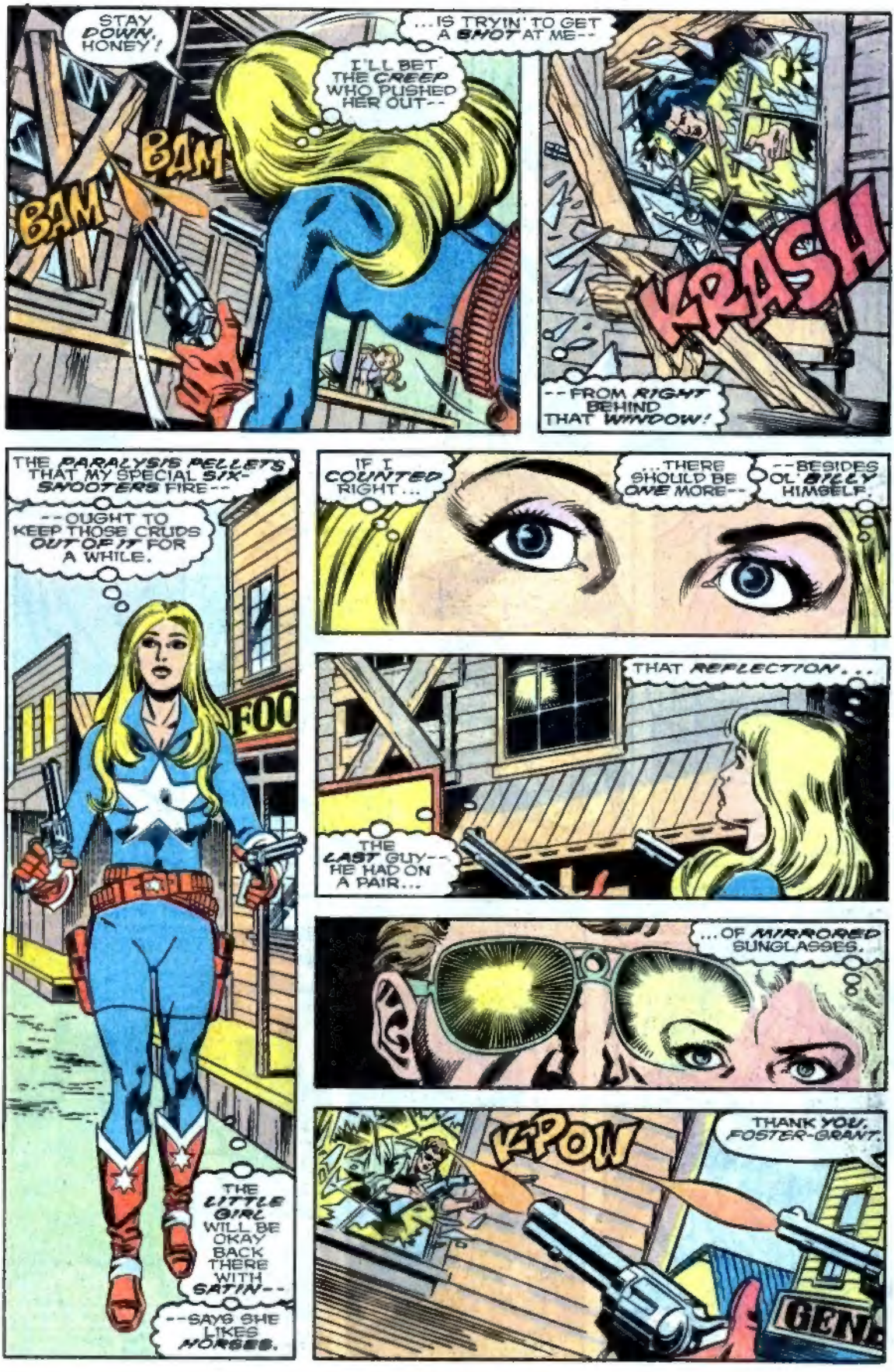
WOWZER!
GEE, IT'S REALLY HER!
WELL, WELL--LOOKS LIKE MY LITTLE BIT OF FUN HAS ATTRACTED AN AUDIENCE
DIDJA SEE THAT?
NEAT!
LOOKS LIKE THAT GROUP OF STUDENTS I SAW GETTING OFF THE SCHOOL BUS EARLIER
WELL--THANK YOU VERY MUCH, GANG.
HAH! BIG STINKIN' DEAL!
YA THINK YOU'RE NOT STUBF SHOWIN' OFF FOR THE LITTLE KIDDIES, DON'T YA?
WELL, I'M TOP GUN AROUND THESE PARTS!
AIN'T NO FEMALE-- STAR OR NOT--THAT CAN OUT SHOOT ME!
YEAH! YOU TELL HER, BLACK BILLY!

I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WAS OVERRATED-- RIDIN' ON THE REPS OF YOUR PARTNERS IN THE RANGERS!
YOU WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST A MAN!
WHY DON'T YA TRY YOUR LUCK IN THE BIG SHOOTIN' CONTEST?
OR MAYBE YOU'RE AFRAID I'LL SHOW YA UP A LITTLE?
BYE-- GIIIIRLS.
HE WASN'T RIGHT, WAS HE, MISS STAR?
HA-HA-HA-HA
OH, BROTHER.
GIRLS CAN DO AS GOOD AS BOYS...
...CAN'T THEY?
THE BIG SHOOTING CONTEST...
TISH
BAM
BAM
BAM
TISH
TISH
OOOH WEE!
I'M TOP GUN!

NOT SO FAST, "TOP GUN".
I'D LIKE TO TAKE YOU UP ON YOUR EARLIER OFFER.
NOW HOLD'ER RIGHT THERE, LITTLE LADY
WE USUALLY DON'T ALLOW NO WOMEN IN THIS HERE CONTEST
HOLD UP MY MAN
I THINK WE CAN GIVE MISS SHOOTIN' STARLET HERE A TRY.
OKAY, HERE'S THE DEAL--
--PABLO HERE WILL TOSS SOME QUARTERS INTO THE AIR.
MOST DAYS I PLUG TEN OF 'EM BEFORE ANY HITS THE GROUND
ONCE, I EVEN GOT TWELVE OF THOSE SUCKERS.
GEE, I DON'T THINK SO, BILLY..
...WHY DON'T YOU GO FIRST SHOW ME HOW IT'S DONE?
SO, WADDA YA SAY, STAR? THINK YOU CAN TOP ME?
OKAY, PABLO--LET 'EM FLY.
SMAP
BUT BEFORE BILLY CAN FIRE..
POK
MAN, THAT'S ABOUT FIFTEEN OF 'EM--
"...SHE HIT 'EM ALL."
BTOO
KTING

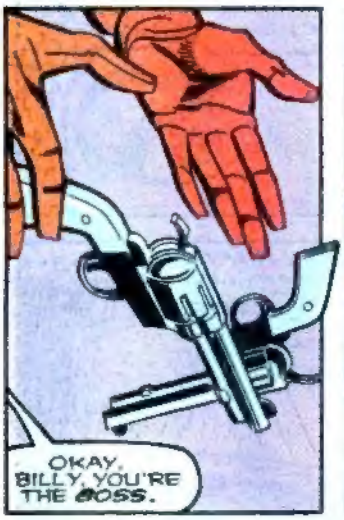
LATER..
SMOOTING STAR!
THAT'S THE DRIVER FROM THE KIDS' SCHOOL BUS..
THE CHILDREN-- THEY TOOK THE CHILDREN!
THAT BLACK BILLY'S REAL MAD ABOUT YOU OUTSHOOTIN' HIM SO BAD!
HE AN' HIS BUNCH TOOK THE WHOLE BUS FULL OF GIRLS!
WHERE? WHERE ARE THEY?
"THEY SAID TO TELL YOU THAT IF YOU WANT THOSE KIDS BACK TO MEET THEM, ALONE, ABOUT A MILE DUE SOUTH OF HERE--
"--AT THE OLD GHOST TOWN!"
MAN, I BET I COULD DROP HER RIGHT NOW--BUT BILLY'D KILL ME!
BETTER JUST GIVE HER THE STORY AND THEN GET INTO POSITION
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, STAR!
WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?
THEY'RE FINE-- FOR NOW.
BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR LITTLE GIRLFRIENDS HURT--
--YOU GOTTA WALK THROUGH OUR LITTLE GAUNTLET...
P'TING
"..SO GET GOIN'!"

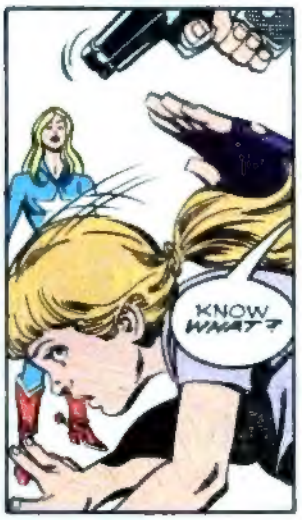
HEY, HEY, STAR BABY.
LOOKS LIKE I GET TO BE THE FIRST ONE YOU GOTTA FACE!
THIS GUY MUST BE STANDIN' OUT HERE IN THE OPEN FOR A REASON.
THINK I'LL START WITH THAT HORSE OF HERS
...MAYBE AS BAIT FOR A BUSHWHACKIN'!
K-POW
DROP 'N' ROLL, SO THAT OTHER CHUMP CAN'T GET A BEAD ON ME.
WHA...?
SO FAST...
PTING
PTING
NO!
HEY, STAR! OVAH HERE!
WAIT-- DON'T SHOOT!
IT'S ONE OF THE KIDS!

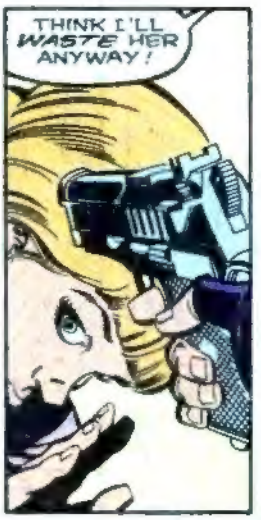

STAY DOWN, HONEY!
BAM
BAM
I'LL BET THE CREEP WHO PUSHED HER OUT--
...IS TRYIN' TO GET A SHOT AT ME--
KRASH
--FROM RIGHT BEHIND THAT WINDOW!
THE PARALYSIS PELLETS THAT MY SPECIAL SIX-SHOOTERS FIRE--
--OUGHT TO KEEP THOSE CRUDS OUT OF IT FOR A WHILE.
THE LITTLE GIRL WILL BE OKAY BACK THERE WITH SATIN--
--SAYS SHE LIKES HORSES.
IF I COUNTED RIGHT...
...THERE SHOULD BE ONE MORE--
--BESIDES OL' BILLY HIMSELF.
THAT REFLECTION...
THE LAST GUY-- HE HAD ON A PAIR...
...OF MIRRORED SUNGLASSES.
KPOW
THANK YOU, FOSTER-GRANT.

LOOKIN' FOR ME?
BILLY...

DROP THOSE GUNS...
...OR THE BRAT GETS IT!


OKAY, BILLY, YOU'RE THE BOSS.


KNOW WHAT?


THINK I'LL WASTE HER ANYWAY!

HE LOOKS AWAY FROM HER...
...AT THE CHILD--

--THE THROW IS...
...FLAWLESS.

GUESS YOU DIDN'T KNOW, BILLY--SEEMS I ALWAYS HIT WHAT I'M AIMING AT--WHETHER WITH A GUN OR ANYTHING ELSE.
NOT BAD FOR A FEMALE, HUH?

AND SO, AS THE SUN SINKS SLOWLY IN THE WEST...
WHEN THE WORKIN' DAY IS DONE--OH GIRLS, THEY WANNA HAVE FUN
OH GIRLS, THEY WANNA HAVE FUN
THE END.

MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Marvel,

Thank you for creating this sensational book. I really love the format of the book and don't feel that it should change. Three multi-part stories and one complete unit per issue is a good idea. Especially since the book is bi-weekly, and the wait between issues isn't too long (the fact that I collect 35 of your titles does help me pass the time between issues of MCP too!).

Considering MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #36, I can't say that I was impressed by the Excalibur story since I do not particularly like Excalibur. I do collect the comic, however, but I am not too fond of humorous comics which sometimes border on the absurd.

The Black Panther, however, has been the story which I have looked forward to the most. The conclusion is coming soon, and I can't wait to see if T'Challa will finally see his mother. I must admit that I am somewhat of a racist, but the story has shown me things about the treatment of black people in South Africa which made me rethink my views. I thank you for that.

The Coldblood story was very enjoyable and I really believe that MCP is a good place to start off new characters. However, if you're thinking of giving Coldblood his own book, please consider Deathlok first. Even though I'd really like to see both of them in new series, I think that both characters are kind of similar (no offense), and Deathlok should get one first since he's been around longer.

The Her story was also fine. I've always had a fondness for cosmic stories, and this one was really good. I just hope Her decides to change her name, maybe adopting the names the aliens gave her, "Starduster."

To close, I would like to see the following characters in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS: Deathlok, Killraven, and the Guardians of the Galaxy. Thank you for listening.

Lorenzo Napoland
(address withheld by request)

Thanks for talking, Lorenzo. we appreciate you writing all of your comments, but we think you wrote about the wrong issue. You're talking about MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #35 not 36. Oh well, we're suckers for complimentary letters, so we printed your letter anyway. As for your requests for future stories, you're in luck. In the future, you'll see multi-issue stories about both Killraven and the Guardians of the Galaxy right here in these pages. As for your Deathlok vs. Coldblood controversy, you'll be able to see both of them in the near future in different places. Deathlok and Coldblood are both getting Bookshelf Format Limited Series! Look for them some time soon. And continue to check out this page in future months for updates on new stuff coming out.

Dear Presenters,

"...Officials voted in by the majority vote of minority voters is not an election, it is the horror we know as Apartheid."

—Author unknown

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #36 was very significant in the fact that it was the first issue not to have four separate features. Instead, we were treated to a double installment of the "Panther's Quest" which only served to accentuate the importance of this story. The story has many lessons to teach us on many levels. It is a story of oppression of not just people in South Africa, but oppression of the human spirit regardless of race and creed. A very powerful story.

The Excalibur story continues to impress me, but mostly I'm overwhelmed by Terry Austin's inks over ~~Erik~~ Larsen's pencils. They make quite a good team.

While the Hellcat story was less than perfect, it is nice to see the fourth spot being used for minor characters from the Marvel Universe. I still long for the announcement of a feature length horror or western, but until then, this book continues to impress and entertain me.

Charles S. Novinskie
PO Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Thanks, Charles. We hope that other people were as positively affected by the message of "Panther's Quest" as you were. As for your need for a horror story, read on. . .

Dear Terry,

I just read MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #36 and I felt I had to write and tell you what I thought of it. I know I haven't written lately, I guess I got lazy, but now I'm back writing again because I think your book is really good. Now let me get to specifics. . .

"Having a Wild Weekend" continues to be quite an enjoyable series. Ever since I read TRANSFORMERS VS. GI JOE, I've looked forward to seeing more writing from Michael Higgins. I figured that, judging from how well he did with robots, he would do really well with regular Marvel characters. You know what, guys, I wasn't disappointed. I think that next to Chris Claremont, Mr. Higgins is the best writer for the Excalibur characters. The stories are consistently funny and entertaining, and even though I know the villain behind it all is Arcade, I am still anxiously awaiting the last two installments of the story. Oh, and I musn't forget to commend the artwork as well. I really like Erik Larsen's pencils, and his stuff looks especially good with Terry Austin's inks over it. Actually, I liked Erik's art on the Her story last issue also. Al Gordon looks good over him too! I hope to see more from Erik after this epic ends.

"Panther's Quest" has been consistently good for almost a year already, so it was quite a pleasant surprise to see half the book devoted to it this issue. Don McGregor has weaved an intricate and exciting tale for us, and I for one will be sorry to see it end. His newest villainous creation, Gore, was worthy of his name. Boy, he's really a psycho, huh? I hope T'challa can survive being drowned, because I can't wait to finally see the reunion with his mother. That's something I've been looking forward to for a very long time now, and I'd hate to see Gore ruin it. Gene and Tom have always been one of my favorite art teams, and the work they're doing here just shows why. I think Gene's style is perfectly suited for the Black Panther. He makes all of these characters come alive. I hope we'll see more stuff by him and Tom in the future.

"Encounter in the Alley of Death" was okay, about I don't think it was as good as the other two stories in this issue. I did like the art by June and Roy (I've always thought they made a great team), though. They really draw a good Hellcat. I wasn't too thrilled with Jack Harris' writing, to tell you the truth. That narrative was really starting to get on my nerves by the end of the story. Oh well, that's only a minor complaint in what I think is one of the best comic books to come out this year. Keep up the great work, guys, and I'll keep on reading the fantastic stuff.

Victor Dupree
Fresno, CA

We'll try, Victor, thanks for writing again. We're going to kill two birds with one stone now by telling both you and Charles that we have plans for a Dracula story to appear in these pages sometime in the near future. That's a horror story for you, Charles, and it will be drawn by Gene Colan and Tom Palmer just for you, Victor. Maybe when that issue comes out you'll write us again, huh, Victor?

Dear guys,

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I've been waiting to see Patsy Walker-Hellstrom again since her brief appearance in WEST COAST AVENGERS a few years back. Let me just say that I wasn't disappointed in the story. As a matter of fact, I loved it! Jack C. Harris has the Hellcat character down to a tee. I love the silent heroic type. It was great to see her fighting bad guys and saving innocent people. It's too bad that one of New York's finest had to die, but at least Patsy solved the mystery. And what a mystery it was! What's going on with that woman who narrated the story? Was she a mutant or something? Maybe we'll see a story about her sometime in the future in the pages of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. June and Roy draw an excellent Hellcat also. The action sequences were superb. The two of them make quite a formidable team. Hey, don't get me wrong, I liked the Excalibur and Black Panther stories too, but I was just ecstatic when I saw the Hellcat story. Don't listen to anyone who tells you to get rid of the single part stories. They're a big part of the reason I buy your mag. Thanks for everything.

Deborah Meltzer
26 Whitney Ave.
Floral Park, NY 11001

Don't worry, Deborah, we don't plan to get rid of the one-parters. We happen to like them, too! It may be a long time before you see a story about the woman who narrated this story, though. Sorry. . .

WRESTLEMANIACS
THE INCREDIBLE HULK
VS. THE HULK
O'NEILL
SHOOTING STAR
IN A WILD WEST SHOOT-OUT